

# Choosing the Correct Trigonometric Rule

Does the triangle have a right angle?

yes!

no!

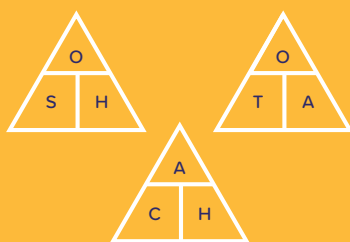
Are there any angles involved in the question?

yes!

no!

Use

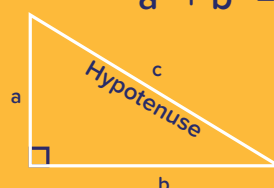
**SOHCAHTOA**



Use

**Pythagoras' Theorem**

$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$$



Is there a matching pair?  
(An angle and its opposite side length)

yes!

no!

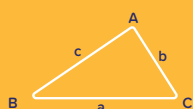
Use

**Sine Rule**

$$\frac{\sin A}{a} = \frac{\sin B}{b} = \frac{\sin C}{c}$$

or

$$\frac{a}{\sin A} = \frac{b}{\sin B} = \frac{c}{\sin C}$$



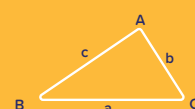
Use

**Cosine Rule**

$$a^2 = b^2 + c^2 - 2bc \cos A$$

or

$$\cos A = \frac{b^2 + c^2 - a^2}{2bc}$$



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